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CHARGES AGAINST SPURLOCK SUSTAINED

President of the School Board, However, Refuses to Resign—Racy Evidence is Submitted by Teachers.

President William Spurlock of the board of education, flatly refuses to resign.

The courts may have to oust him.

Spurlock is grossly guilty of "several things" according to the evidence of city school teachers and the board of education, which voted against his resignation.

The charges against William Spurlock, president of the school board, were sustained last night at a meeting of the board held to investigate the charges and listen to the evidence to be introduced.

The room in which the board met was filled to overflowing with an intensely interested audience, who being unable to suppress their enthusiasm at different times during the session burst forth in hearty applause. This occurred twice when teachers testifying, made statements which proved them to be loyal to the interests of the city schools.

The meeting was a warm one and the excitement was intense at all times. The members who voted to sustain the charges were:

J. M. Brooks, A. O. Farquharson, O. L. Brooks, H. A. Booth and T. A. Neal.

Those voting against them were: C. E. Smith, (colored); O. P. Smallwood, (colored); E. Cook and W. M. Spurlock.

Present but not voting—J. W. McNeal.

After the evidence had been heard it was moved by Mr. Booth that the board go into executive session and consider the matter. A substitute amendment was made by Mr. Neal that the board adjourn until Monday night.

Mr. J. M. Brooks insisted that the matter be settled at once. He stated that if the matter was postponed until Monday night that in all probability it would be dropped and that more than likely the board would fail to get together. The first motion was put before the board and lost and the subsequent motion was withdrawn. Mr. Brooks moved that the charges be sustained and a vote was taken. When the first vote was taken Mr. Spurlock and McNeal passed, and when the second was taken Spurlock voted against the charges, but McNeal still refused to vote. Mr. Spurlock deviated from the regular business at the last of the meeting, and charged Brooks with things in no way connected with the meeting.

At every available opportunity Mr. Spurlock would ask the witnesses questions which showed plainly that he was trying to bring Prof. Buck into the matter. These were strongly objected to by the board.

Miss Alma Carson who filed the charges was first to take the stand and in answer to questions stated that the statement she was making was merely from what she had heard, the statement being the same in substance as the charges she had filed and which were published in the Leader yesterday.

She also brought before the board an affidavit made by a teacher, in regard to his (Spurlock) giving her the examination questions two days before the examination. For reasons of her own it appears that the young lady did not wish to have her name appear publicly but Miss Carson stated that the board could examine the paper. Mr. Spurlock insisted that the name be made public but Miss Carson firmly stated that she had pledged her word to act according to the request of her friend, and that without the teacher's permission she would positively refuse to make the matter public.

In answer to a question by Mr. Spurlock as to whether or not he had ever mistreated her and others relative to that Miss Carson replied:

"I wish it distinctly understood that I am making no personal complaint on account of any personal grievance or any thing that concerns me."

Mr. Spurlock then asked questions relative to the election, and which were all objected to by members of the board as they did not in any way bear upon the matter.

"At whose suggestion did you file the charges?" was the next question asked.

"I did it of my own free will."

Miss Carson then left the stand and the following statement was made by Miss Margaret Byrne:

"On Saturday morning after the primaries, my niece and myself were going up the street when we met Mr. Spurlock at Armantrout's gallery, and he said: 'Miss Byrne, how long will you be up town.'"

After a few questions of minor importance it appears that Mr. Spurlock stated that he wished to have a private talk with her in his office but finally prevailed on her to step into the hallway near at hand and Mr. Spurlock said:

"I want to warn you as a personal friend to keep out of this fight."

Miss Byrne asked "What fight?"

He then said, "the fight between me and Buck. This is a fight to the finish and I am warning you as a friend that any teacher who uses her influence for the reelection of Mr. Buck and Mr. Buck loses out, will be dropped."

"I then replied," said Miss Byrne, "Capitol school is loyal to their superintendent, and we think him as fine a superintendent if not the finest we have ever taught under."

Mr. Spurlock said: "You teachers do not know that man. I have letters from Indianapolis where he came from which say he was a good superintendent, but they are damaging to his character,—then, I fear I was indiscreet for I said, 'Mr. Spurlock, what has professor done?' He said, 'to tell you the plain, unvarnished truth'—but I do not wish to repeat Mr. Spurlock's words, but he told me in the plainest terms, what those letters contained against Prof. Buck."

She further stated that Spurlock said that if Buck had "laid down," he would have let him off easy, but now that it was going to be a fight, "I think Mr. Spurlock thought he was doing me a kindness, but I considered it a threat, and do so still."

Miss Lena Osborne then took the stand, and when asked "If at any time Mr. Spurlock had conducted himself toward her in an ungentlemanly manner," she replied "Yes."

She stated that he came to her school room to see about the coal on the occasion to which she alluded, asked "was it something I did or said?" The reply "something you did" called forth an earnest question "Will you state to these people what it was?" To this she replied, "No, but I will say this, that if any man would treat your daughter as you treated me, you would not let him go unpunished."

When asked why she had not made it public before, "I will say," came the quick answer, "because Mr. Spurlock has never given me the opportunity and on account of his family."

Miss Eva Swan's testimony which was made before the board in executive session was damaging in that she stated that Spurlock had insulted her, during her first year in the city schools, telling the occurrence in detail to the board.

The affidavit of the teacher who alleged that she had been given the examination questions two days before the examination by Mr. Spurlock, was also produced to the board behind closed doors.

Mr. Spurlock refused to make his statement, or denials, in public, after insisting earlier in the evening that

ARCH TRAITOR.

Flynn Violently Plugs Guthrie at Washington.

Special to Daily Leader.

Washington, D. C., March 29.—Denise Flynn appeared before the house territorial committee this morning in opposition to the provision in the

statehood bill locating the capital of Oklahoma state at Guthrie until 1919. He urged that it should go to Oklahoma City where it will certainly go when the people get an opportunity to decide the question for themselves.

Capital for Guthrie in the Curtis Bill

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, D. C., March 29.—Several features of the new statehood bill were discussed before the house committee on territories today by Congressman Curtis of Kansas. Mr. Curtis argued that the constitutions of the new states shall be required to contain ample provision for the protection of the Indians in their treaty rights with the United States.

Some features of the bill which have not heretofore been made public are that the state shall be known as "Oklahoma" and shall be entitled to five representatives in the house of representatives. The capital is to be Guthrie.

the teachers be compelled to make their statements in public.

His defense was a denial and a number of the members left the room while he was making it. J. M. Brooks, O. L. Brooks and H. A. Booth were the first to leave. A. O. Farquharson and T. A. Neal soon followed.

Mr. Spurlock's statement and Miss Eva Swan's charge were afterwards read in public.

Mr. Spurlock's statement follows: As to Miss Byrne's statement: She stated in essence about what I said only that there was a great deal added to it more than I did say. When she stated that I said if Buck hadn't of taken the position he did in regard to the primaries, I never said at all, never thought of saying such a thing.

I will state in substance what I did say. I met her where she said and told her that there would probably be a fight along that line and advised her not to take any part in the selection for or against. That was about the sum and substance of our conversation. There was a great deal added to it there.

Now in regard to Miss Osborne: I want to say that I visited this Central school building just once in company with Mr. Neal and Mr. Buck; at one time I met Mr. Pulse, and I want the board to question him about it, and he spoke to me about the coal. He and I walked down together there in the hall. Miss Osborne—now I want to say that in passing out of the light here in the hall it was—Miss Osborne was standing in the door or near the door, when Mr. Pulse and I came down the stairs I—as I remember it, I took her by the arm and turned her round and said "Miss Osborne it is so dark here I hardly recognized you.—Mr. Pulse being right with me, we walked on to the coal room. I was not in the building over three minutes all told and went to my office."

Now with regard to Miss Swan's statement: I will simply say that she came to the door of my office just as I was—my recollection is just as I was looking up. We were talking about the schools—she had had some trouble with Mr. Bowden's boy, and she was telling me about it. I stood there simply and listened to her story and when I went to close the door, as she said—it was getting dark—and I just pushed her—my recollection is, just took her by the arm (applause) or just touched her arm, and that is the only time I ever remember of talking to her and I never visited her room that I know of.

Mr. Pulse was then questioned by

the board, and he stated that he did not know whether or not the time he spoke of meeting Mr. Spurlock in the building was the time in question or not.

In substance the statement of the president of the board was a denial of the things charged.

He has stated that he will not resign, and the matter will have to be taken before the court before he can be compelled to resign his position as president of the board. Just what action will be taken along this line is not yet known.

Meanwhile the schools are torn up; the children will not study and the teachers are nervous through fear that board members will dash precipitately into their respective rooms and demand ransoms.

SCHOOL NOTES.

By Ima Darling.

Such lovely billiards. The A class parsed Spurlock this morning.

Every teacher should memorize Miss Carson's charge of the Light Brigade. Mr. Pulse is quite handy. Going up!

All us girls enjoyed the trial at Central school last night.

The high school has taken up Mr. McNeal's attitude for study. Pass the butter.

Is Prof. Buck guilty? Let the class in geometry decline guilty.

Is your arm sore, Kitty darling? The question is this: Can not an honest girl earn an honest salary and pass an honest examination without having to be unkindly treated?

Inspection

"All oils shipped into Oklahoma must be subjected to inspection. It matters not whether the oil is used by railroads or private persons." This is the gist of an opinion from the attorney general's office today.

Wm. Rice Kennedy was found dead at Hutchinson, Kas., today. He was the father of Mrs. Ada Markland Sheffield, the famous singer.

Manager Gaines of the Lion store, will close up the stock Saturday and ship to Oklahoma City. Gaines is a fine fellow and his friends trust he will continue to reside in Guthrie.

OHIO RIVER ON DISASTROUS RAMPAGE

Heavy Rains Cause Floods in Indiana—Water at Evansville Above Danger Line and People Moving to High Ground.

(By Associated Press.)

Indianapolis, Ind., March 29.—All the rivers in Southern Indiana are pouring floods into the Ohio, forcing that stream out of its banks. The White river is getting into the coal mines around Petersburg, causing heavy loss and throwing miners out of work. The Wabash river is giving farmers around New Harmony uneasiness. The crests of floods in these two streams are expected to reach their junction point in Gibson county today or tomorrow, and may join their heavier forces at the same time.

This will send a mighty river tearing through the rich lower Wabash valley to the Ohio. The only danger point north of Indianapolis is at Lafayette, where the water from the Wabash is undermining a high railroad embankment. Should serious break occur, the district that is now protected will be flooded.

At Evansville, the river is one foot above the danger line and rising. The lowlands above and below the city are under water and in some places the river is several miles wide.

Slow War

Russians and Japanese Land Forces are Far Apart

(By Associated Press.)

Tien Tsin, March 29.—In the course of a conversation today the Russian military agent here said he did not expect a serious engagement between the Russian and Japanese land forces for two or three months, and that it was very improbable that the Japanese would attempt to land at New Chwang or in that vicinity.

Seoul, March 28.—The report has reached here that fifty Japanese and one hundred Cossacks were killed and wounded in a skirmish that occurred between Anju and Tjingju.

The above dispatch probably refers to the engagement reported last week as having occurred March 23, but in which no Cossack losses were mentioned.

Files the Tri-Color.

Tien Tsin, March 29.—A Frenchman named Kroustier, an employee of the Russo-Chinese bank, has been appointed French consular agent at New Chwang. He has hoisted the French flag over the bank buildings. It is considered that this is a forerunner of the movement to fly the tri-color over all the Russian government buildings at New Chwang.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mrs. M. Behr of Chandler, is visiting relatives in the city.

Bishop F. K. Brocks conducted services in Chandler Sunday.

Cattle Inspector R. H. Hahn of Alva, was in the city today for a conference with Secretary Morris of the Sanitary commission.

GAS WELL GONE WILD.

A Big One at Ramona is Beyond Control.

Special to Daily Leader.

Ramona, T. T., March 29.—The big gas well brought in by the New Oklahoma company a few days ago on their lease about five miles west of this place was partially brought under control but before the pressure could be registered the plug blew off, tearing away part of the casing. The well is said to be the biggest gas well in either the territory or Kansas field and the owners are considering piping the product to Joplin, a distance of eighty miles.

Defense

In Burton Case is Busy Perfecting Appeal

(By Associated Press.)

St. Louis, Mo., March 29.—Sentence was not passed today upon United States Senator Burton, Kansas, who was yesterday found guilty in the United States district court of having illegally accepted payment from the Rialto Grain and Securities company, of St. Louis, for use of his influence with the postal department in behalf of that company's interests.

St. Louis, Mo., March 29.—Counsel for Senator Burton today filed a motion in arrest of judgment, and is now also before the court with a motion for a new trial, filed immediately after verdict was rendered. Judge Adams will first have to dispose of the motions before sentence can be passed.

The defense is busy at work preparing a bill of exceptions and making a complete record of the evidence. It may take two or three days before this is completed and the bill of exceptions is ready for filing, on which to base an appeal to the United States court of appeals, which is the court of highest jurisdiction in this case. If sentence is finally passed upon Burton and his case is appealed, he will be released on bond pending a rehearing of the case by the court of appeals at St. Paul, May 1.

Plot

(By Associated Press.)

New York, March 29.—The story of an alleged plot to assassinate President Roosevelt which upon investigation proved to be entirely baseless, was made public today by Police Commissioner McAdoo.

Payne

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, D. C., March 29.—General William B. Payne, a distinguished Confederate officer, commander of the famous Black Horse cavalry at the first battle of Bull Run, died today, aged 73.

Deputy Marshal Cohagan and J. C. Gough left this morning for Perry.